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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAMES CHEN

Serial No.: 09/760,362

Filed:

January 12, 2001

For:

NOVEL TREATMENT FOR EYE

DISEASE

Art Unit:

1614

Examiner:

Unassigned

I hereby certify that this paper and the attached papers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

02/21/02

Lynn Morkunas

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment for filing in connection with the above-identified application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee, including any submitted herewith if the attached check(s) is in the wrong amount or otherwise improper or missing, that may be due in connection with this and the attached papers, or with this application during its entire pendency to or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1213. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted, HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By:

Stephanie Ł. Seidman Registration No. 33,779

Attorney Docket No. 25886-0062

Address all correspondence to:

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked-up copy of the amended specification is attached to this Amendment):

Please replace paragraph 005 on page 2, with the following paragraph:

As an alternative to photocoagulation, photodynamic therapy has been proposed as a means of treating this form of AMD (see: Strong *et al.*, "Vision through photodynamic therapy of the eye," U.S. Patent Nos. 5,756,541 and 5,910,510; and Mori *et al.*, "Photochemotherapeutical obstruction of newlyformed blood vessels," U.S. Patent No. 5,633,275). Photodynamic therapy ("PDT"), as taught in this prior art, is a two-step treatment process. PDT is performed by first administering a photosensitive compound systemically or topically, followed by illumination of the treatment site at a wavelength or waveband of light from a laser which closely matches the absorption spectra of